

REMARKS

Claims 1-17 and 24-31 are pending in this application after this Amendment; claims 1, 13-17, and 31 being independent. In light of the remarks contained herein, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections.

In the outstanding Official Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-7, 9, 11, and 13-16 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by *Ma* (USP 5,880,928); rejected claim 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by *Brenner et al.* (USP 5,786,983); and rejected claim 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Ma* in view of *Smith* (USP 5,768,163). Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for noting claim 8 contains allowable subject matter.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102 - *Ma*

In support of the Examiner's rejection of claim 1, the Examiner relies on *Ma* to disclose a chamber for accepting an external device, citing to ref. numerals 222 or 212. Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's characterization of this reference.

It is respectfully submitted that *Ma* teaches a notebook computer with audio and video effects. As shown in Fig. 2, CCD

camera 222 and sound boxes 212 contain wires that indicate a permanent connection to the computing device.

In response to Applicant's arguments, in the outstanding Official Action, the Examiner responds by asserting wires do not preclude the device from being removed from a main unit, firstly because even if connected by wires, the device may still be considered as being removed, and secondly because the wires may be disconnected. Applicant submits that the Examiner's interpretation of the word "removable" as set forth in the claim is overly broad.

First, if the CCD camera 222 is connected to the notebook computer, then the camera would not be considered to be removed from the chamber. Second, if the CCD camera were disconnected as suggested by the Examiner, in order to do this, the notebook computer would need to be disassembled in order to properly disconnect the CCD camera. If the notebook was not disassembled, the CCD camera would be damaged upon removal. Additionally, in order to reconnect the CCD camera, disassembly of the notebook computer would again need to take place. As such, it is respectfully submitted that the CCD camera as cited by the Examiner is not "removable". As such, it is respectfully submitted that *Ma* fails to anticipate the invention as set forth in claim 1.

It is respectfully submitted that claims 2-12 are allowable for the reasons set forth above with regard to claim 1 at least based upon their dependency on claim 1.

Claim 13 was previously amended to recite, *inter alia*, a personal computer comprising a chamber disposed within the display unit, the chamber adapted to accept at least a portion of a removable external device therewithin. As noted above, *Ma* discloses a permanent connection of the CCD camera 222 and the sound boxes 212 to the computing device. As such, *Ma* fails to anticipate claim 13 by failing to teach a chamber adapted to accept at least a portion of a removable external device. Thus, claim 13 is allowable over *Ma*.

It is respectfully submitted that claim 14 recites, *inter alia*, a method for providing an interface to a removable external device and a computer comprising, *inter alia*, providing an electrical connection inside the chamber such that at least a portion of the removable external device is capable of being inserted into the chamber such that an electrical connection is established therewithin between the removable external device and the electrical connector. As noted above, *Ma* teaches establishing a permanent connection between the camera 222 and the sound boxes 212, thus failing to teach providing an electrical connection inside the chamber such that at least a portion of the removable

external device is capable of being inserted into the chamber such that an electrical connection is established therewithin between the removable external device and the electrical connector. As such, it is respectfully submitted that claim 14, as amended, is not anticipated by *Ma*.

It is respectfully submitted that independent claim 15, as amended, contains elements similar to those discussed above with regard to claim 13 and, thus, claim 15 is not anticipated by *Ma* for the reasons set forth above with regard to claim 13.

Claim 16 was previously amended to recite, *inter alia*, an apparatus for interfacing a computer with a removable external device, the apparatus comprising a chamber having an opening disposed on the outside of the display unit configured to adaptably receive the removable external device. As noted above, *Ma* discloses a permanent connection between camera 222 and sound boxes 212. Thus, *Ma* fails to teach a chamber having an opening disposed on the outside of the display unit configured to adaptively receive the removable external device. Thus, claim 16 is not anticipated by *Ma*.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102 - *Brenner et al.*

In support of the Examiner's rejection of claim 17, the Examiner asserts that *Brenner et al.* discloses display unit 102 having a display face 122 and being movably coupled to a base unit 114 such that the display face 122 forms an angle generally less

than 180° with the base unit 114. Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's characterization of this reference.

It is respectfully submitted that the disclosure set forth in *Brenner et al.* is directed to an information device with a display and keyboard having corresponding sets of function keys. *Brenner et al.* discloses computer 100 including a display screen 122 disposed on a front surface 102 of a display screen portion 132. The display screen portion 132 projects rearwardly from a base 114 at a predetermined angle so that a display screen is visible to and optimally positioned for a seated or a standing user (col. 4, lines 31-41).

In contrast, the present invention as set forth in claim 17 recites, *inter alia*, a method for providing an interface to a removable external device in a computer comprising forming a chamber inside a display unit coupled to the computer, the display unit having a display face and being movably coupled to a base unit such that the display face forms an angle generally less than 180° with the base unit. The Examiner relies on *Brenner et al.*'s teaching of a display face 122 and a base unit 114. However, it is respectfully submitted that *Brenner et al.* fails to disclose a display unit having a display face being movably coupled to a base unit such that the **display face** forms an angle generally less than 180° with the base unit. As shown in Fig. 1, the display face forms

an angle greater than 180° with the base unit. As such, it is respectfully submitted that claim 17 is not anticipated by *Brenner et al.*

While the Examiner asserts that certain functional language should not be afforded patentable weight, Applicant maintains his position that the phrase "capable of or adapted to accepting a removable external device" should be afforded patentable weight based upon the reasons set forth in Applicant's previous Replies. However, Applicant believes that the arguments made herein are sufficient to overcome the Examiner's rejections.

By this Amendment, Applicant submits new claims 24-31 for consideration by the Examiner. It is respectfully submitted that these claims are not anticipated by *Ma* or *Brenner et al.*

Conclusion

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Catherine M. Voisinet (Reg. No. 52,327) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

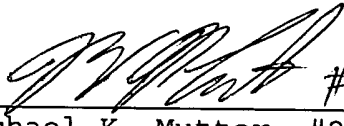
If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees

Appl. No. 09/432,087

required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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